

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: K. SHIBATA
Serial No.: 10/578,845
Filed: MAY 10, 2006
Title: PREANALYSIS TREATMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR ANALYSIS OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC
HYDROCARBONS
Group AU: 1797
Examiner: Ernest G. Therkorn
Confirm. No.: 5049

RESPONSE

Mail Stop: AMEND – FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 25, 2008

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 24, 2008, Applicants respectfully elect the Group I claims (claims 1-3, which the Examiner has characterized as being drawn to a method of fractionating hydrocarbons).

The characterization by the Examiner in the fourth full paragraph on page 2 of the Office Action mailed July 24, 2008, of obviousness or anticipation of claim 4, is respectfully traversed. However, in order to facilitate proceedings in connection with the above-identified application, the present election of the Group I claims is being made without further traverse in connection therewith.

Examination of the Group I claims on the merits, in the above-identified application, in due course, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Kindly charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of

Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (case 648.46078X00),
and please credit any overpayments to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

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